

# Paper

Sociology



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What ISIS could teach the West? What ISIS could teach the West? Kristof's main thesis is that the United States should support women's empowerment and education because it is the best strategy to deal with extremism. According to Kristof (2014), the ISIS and other extremist groups thrive by suppressing women's empowerment and education. The best weapon in this case would thus be a book rather than drones or guns in the long run. Educating women will ensure fewer children and fewer population growth rates coincide with fewer civil conflicts. Although the power of education and women's empowerment is recognized, educational funds hardly receive the required financing from the government. Women's education is quite effective as it possesses a greater ability to produce educated and peaceful youth. Hence, the ISIS should be combated through education and women's empowerment.

Kristof's strategy will significantly change the mental model of the people through education and women's empowerment and this will be apparent in all socio-economic domains. Firstly, by encouraging women's education, women will feel empowered and will have a greater say and involvement in social platforms. Secondly, this will reduce the population by reducing the birth rates that involves many socio-economic dimensions; poor, uneducated women giving birth to many children creates a situation of illiteracy, economic deprivation, and other vulnerabilities that strengthen extremism. By providing women with education, they will be empowered and this will pull them out of the vulnerability in which extremism harbors. The outlook towards the world will change and so will the material conditions through economically and socially empowered women who have opportunities.

#### References

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